### Sky One

5.10 Pokemon (R) 2639125
5.35 Stargate: Infinity A planet lies in the path of a comet. (R,T) 9341941
6.00 Pokemon (R) 28729
6.30 Stargate: Infinity (R,T) 48458
7.00 Yu-Gi-Oh! (R) 75090
7.30 Zolds (R) 94125
8.00 The Dog Whisperer A dog obsessed with running. (R) 36467
8.30 Entertainment Tonight US Entertainment news. (R) 86908
9.00 Taste (R) 37477
10.00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
Two new vampires arrive in

10.00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
Two new vampires arrive in
Sunnydale, (R.T.) 90309
11.00 Relic Hunter (R,T) 70545
12.00 The Dog Whisperer A dog
who likes to play with horses, 86944
12.30 Cruise With Stellos Life
aboard easy:CruiseOne, (R) 23090
1.00 Taste Food programme, nosted
by Beverley Turner. 26545
2.00 Law & Order (R) 63767
3.00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
A classmate disappeare during a visit
to the museum.(R,T) 37729
4.00 Relic Hunter Syd helps Carson
locate an ancient tomb. (R,T) 49564
5.00 Star Trek: Voyager Part one
of two. A Federation starship is
encountered. (R,T) 15380
6.30 Malcolm In The Middle Hal
throws Malcolm out of the house.

throws Malcolm out of the house Frankie Muniz stars. (R,T) 6632



BLIEFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER: Buffy and friends visit the local

7.00 The Simpsons Lisa is invited to join Mensa and Homer receives a free erotic

photo-shoot. (R,T) 1835 7.30 The Simpsons A health inspector eats a pickled egg at Moe's and instantly drops dead. (R,T) 2816

8.00 Malcolm In The Middle

Hal finds it hard keeping up with the youngsters when he takes a job in a stereo store. (R,T) 6093 8.30 Futurama The Planet

Express team bring delicious aliens back to Earth. (R,T) 9090

### 9.00 Fastest Man In Water

A look at the lives of two American swimmers who are good friends but arch rivals in the pool. 85854

10.00 The 4400 The NTAC team continue to follow the clues in their attempt to ascertain who killed Jordan Collier. However Tom is forced to make an important decision about where his loyalties lie. (R) 88941

11.00 Scrubs JD decides to end his relationship with Danni when she shows him a building where they might live together. (RT) 40293

11.30 Entertainment Tonight Amanda Byram presents a weekly round-up. 25816

12.30 Star Trek: Voyager (R,T) 1018930 1.25 Fear Factor (R,T) 5141317 2.15 Law & Order (R) 2538046 3.05 Alias (R,T) 8877572 3.55 Entertainment Tonight US 22195794 4.20-5.10 Gamezville (R) 1061930

# STAR TV GUIDE •



**CORONATION STREET: ITV1, 7.30pm** 

THE fallout from Jason's split with Sarah is still hanging over CORONATION STREET (ITV1, 7.30pm). Violet's taken shelter at the

Violet's taken shelter at the Rovers, where she's consoled tonight by Sunita and Shelley. "At least I'm not pregnant by Jason," she remarks tactlessly, temporarily forgetting that Sunita's heavily up the duff with Dirty Dev's twins. "Can you impaire it "I'd hope truid angulating the state of the state o imagine if I'd been stupid enough to have kids? . . . Oh, God, I'm

sorry . . ."
Jason, meanwhile, is chatting with his boss and mentor, the ever charming Charlie. "You lucky beggar!" exclaims Charlie when

he hears what Jason's been up to.
"I take my hat off to you."
Jason insists: "I'm not proud of
myself," but Charlle assures him:
"You should be. It's not even like
one of them's a dog.
"If you want my advice, you'll
get round there sharpish. Lay
your cards on the table, try and
make amends. She's just doing
this to punish you. Tell you what, I
could even put it about that you
tried to top yourself last night. I
don't mind. That would really get
her hot to trot."

don't mind. That would really get her hot to trot."

Also on the Street, newlywed Cilla moans that being married is a waste of her pulling power. "I know every trick in the book to

get a bloke into bed," she points out to Fiz. "Eight pints of cider?" Fiz inquires. "A stun gun?" MEANWHILE, in EASTENDERS (BBC1, 8pm),

EASTENDERS (BBC1, 8pm), the soap police are sniffing around Albert Square, curious as to the whereabouts of Simple Sam. "You appreciate that hindering the police in their inquiries is a criminal offence?" one of them asks Peg. Like that's going to bother her!

AND Corrie's Bradley Walsh is the latest celeb to front ITV1's telly flashback show MUST-SEE TV (10pm), tonight looking back on top Seventies cop show The Sweeney.

# **ALAN FRANK'S TELLY MOVIES**

STAR RATINGS

\*\*Don't miss it \*\*\*\*Good \*\*\*Average \*\*Time filler \*Garbage!

THE MOUNTAIN (1956) \*\*\* Five 1.30-3.30pm. Adventure. Spencer Tracy and Robert Wagner set off to find the wreckage of a crashed airplane in the Alps but one of them is determined to loot the aircraft and the other is equally determined to stop him.

INCIDENT IN A SMALL TOWN (TVM, 1994) \*\*\*\* C4 1.50-3.30pm. Murder mystery. When respected judge Harry Morgan is accused of having murdered his daughter's lover, family friend Walter Matthau sets out to investigate and uncover the truth.

child themselves.

GROSSE POINT BLANK (1997) \*\*\* Five 9.00-11.05pm. Black comedy. Hitman John Cusack is set to combine business and pleasure when he returns home to kill someone and also to attend his high school reunion – but there's a dangerous fly in the ointment.

FIST OF FURY (1972) \*\*\*\* Five 11.05pm-1.05am. Martial arts adventure. Bruce Lee blazes into action after a student is killed during a war between Japanese martial arts students and a rival Chinese group.

BATS (1999) \*\*\* C4 11.35pm-1.10am.

BATS (1999) \*\*\*\* C4 11,35pm-1.10am.
Shocker. Two wildlife experts take on the legions of genetically mutated killer bats that have escaped from a shady research establishment and are terrorising the inhabitants of a small town in Texas.

PATCH ADAMS (1998) \* BBC1 11.351.30am. Fact-based comedy drama.
Sentiment-soaked Robin Williams is supremely irritating playing an orthodox student doctor whose clowning cheers up on-screen patients while hyper-irritating luckless viewers.

THE BODY SNATCHER (1945) b/w \*\*\*\*
BBC2 12.35-2.00am. Classic vintage shocker. 18th Century Edinburgh anatomist Henry Daniell falls in with evil grave robbers when he is forced to look for the regular supply of corpses he needs for his work.

### **REGIONAL VARIATIONS**

BBC1 Variations WALES: 6.30-7.00 Regional News 448 BBC2 Variations WALES: 7.30-8.00 Bill Oddie's How

Watch Widtle 55 (7) 4 NGLIA: 3.29-3.30 Anglia Weather 1852/25 6.00-6.30 Local News 835 ITV1 Verifations ITV1 ANGLIA: 3.29-3.30 Anglia Weather 1852/25 6.00-6.30 Local News 835 ITV1 CENTRAL: 3.29-3.30 Local News 835 ITV1 CENTRAL: 3.29-3.30 Local News 835 ITV1 CHANALE: 1.29-6.10 Regional News 835 ITV1 Watches 185 ITV1 VERST: 3.29-3.30 ITV West Weather 1652/25 6.00-6.30 Local News 835 ITV1 Watches Watches

1682/15 (0.04-.30 Local News 639 long.35 Westcodnly vesiliar 1682/25 (0.04-.30 Local News 639 long.35 Westcodnly vesiliar 1682/25 (0.04-.30 local News 639 long.35 Westcodnly vesiliar 11.35-12.00 Tool 10.45 The Theory Of Everything 158059111.35 12.30 Planet Plant Bash (628282 1.15 M) Vesiliar 2672290 long. 12.30 Planet Plant Bash (628282 1.15 M) Deat 1970/167 12.30 Planet Plant Bash (628282 1.15 M) Deat 1970/167 12.30 Planet Plant Bash (628282 1.15 M) Deat 1970/167 12.35 Deat 17 M Deat 1970/167 12.30 Planet P

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television**X** 

# TV GUIDE:

BOREDOM can be a dangerous thing, particularly when you mix it with teenagers. Last night, **DEATH METAL MURDERS** (BBC2) introduced us to a new, ear-splitting kind of music, whose lyrics celebrate Satanism, rape and mutilation. Fronted by bands with names like Cannibal Corpse, Morbid Angel and Autopsy, the death metal scene is a big hit with teenagers who, naturally enough, see it as a great way of horrifying their parents. In that sense, they're not much different

great way of norrifying their parents.

In that sense, they're not much different from the 'flappers' of the 1920s, who made the older generation go purple in the face just by dancing the Charleston. But some kids have gone well beyond liking the music as a fashion statement. In 1996, three

Californian teenagers, all heavily into death metal, killed one of their classmates in a devil-worshipping sacrifice. More recently, two teenagers in Milan were brutally stabbed by their friends in a bizarre ritual. Understandably, the parents of the victims, and some spokesmen from the Church, think the music is drawing impressionable youngsters into the occult.

But the death metal bands themselves seemed like circus acts, who only chuck pigs' heads around and shout: "Kill Christians!" because they know how much it delights their audience. Clearly some record company bosses are growing very rich from

...ON LAST NIGHT'S T

a kind of music that often celebrates violence and cruelty. And clearly some people are influenced by it, too.

But they're the same people who'd put their hands in the fire if you told them to – a tiny minority, and not like the bulk of voungeters.

youngsters.
We might as well stop making cars because a handful of us will always drive like lunatics. In any case, it's doubtful whether death metal's gruesome lyrics are really giving the devil a helping hand.

The singing style involves sticking a microphone down your throat as far as your tonsils, and roaring into at it very high speed. You can't understand a word of it even if you want to. even if you want to.

ITV2

9.25am The Planet's Funn

9.25am rine Platiers Pulliness Animals 9,55 Airline USA 10.25 Sally Jessy Raphael 11.10 Judge Judy 12.25pm The Jeremy Kyle Show 1.30 Coronation Street 2.00 Emmerdale 3.00 Ricki Lake 3.50 Tisha 4.55 Sally Jessy Raphael 5.45 Movies Now 6.00 I'm A Celabrity. Junelo Dyune 7 00

Celebrity... Jungle Drums **7.00** Spin City **7.30** ITV At The Movi **8.00** The Xtra Factor: Xcess All

8.00 The Xtra Factor; Xcess All Areas 9.00 Unlikely Lovers 10.00 I'm A Celebrity... NOW! 11.00 I'm A Celebrity... Live 11.35 Coronation Street 12.10am The Frank Skinner Show 1.10 Ricki Lake 1.40 Spin City 2.00-6.01

### **FILMS**

### **SKY MOVIES 1**

6.05am It Had To Be You (2000) (PG) Romantic comedy. 26224816 7.50 The Michael Jackson Story: The Man In The Mirror (2004) (PG) Biopic, starring Flex Alexander. 491908 9.35 Boy Meets Girl (1998) (PG) 9.35 Boy Meets Girl (1998) (PG)
Comedy, starring Sean Astin. 17062831
11.25 Å Bear Named Winnie
(2004) (PG) Fact-based drama, starring
Michael Fassbender. 97288564
1.15pm It Had To Be You (2000)
(PG) Romantic comedy, starring Natasha
Henstridge. 31844293

Henstridge, 31844293
3.00 The Michael Jackson Story:
The Man In The Mirror (2004) (PG)
The Marine Flex Alexander, 29025038 Biopic, starring Flex Alexander. 290250 4.35 Boy Meets Girl (1998) (PG) Comedy, starring Sean Astin. 47440274 6.20 A Bear Named Winnie (2004) 6.20 A Bear Named winnie (2003) (PG) Fact-based drams. 7079803 8.00 Spartan (2004) (15) Premiere. Political thriller, starring Val Kilmer. 69816 10.00 The Day After Tomorrow (2004) (12) Disaster thriller, starring Pages Quiel 3/03/29/3

Dennis Quaid. 30323293
12.10am Death To Smoochy (2002)
(15) Black comedy. 151510
2.05 Too Legit: The MC Hammer Story (2001) (15) Blogic. 675442
3.40 Route 9 (1998) (15) Thriller, starring Kyle MacLachilan. 195046
5.30-7.10 A Bear Named Winnle (2004) (PG) Drama. 53667715

### **SKY MOVIES 2**

6.40am Gentle Ben: Black Gold (2003) (PG) Drama. 94536800 8.25 Pinocchio And The Emperor Of The Night (1987) (U) 17969187 10.10 The Long Walk Home (1990) (PG) Drama. 83307800 12.00noon School Of Rock (2004) 12.00noon School Of Rock (2004) (PG) Comedy, 60670 2.00 UK Top 10 47034922 2.20 Pinocchio And The Emperor Of The Night (1987) (U) 479187 4.00 Gentle Ben: Black Gold (2003) (PG) Drama, 86179670 5.40 Bridget Jones: The Edge Of Reason – Behind The Scenes A loc Heason - Benilla The Science A and at the making of the film. 996545 6.00 Prelude To A Kiss (1992) (PG) Fantasy, starring Meg Ryan. 66729 8.00 School Of Rock (2004) (PG)

Comedy, starring Jack Black. 612/4 10.00 EuroTrip (2004) (15) 493564 11.50 Darkness Falls (2003) (15) 11.50 Darkness Fails (2005) (1-5) Horror, starring Chaney Kley. 707699 1.35am Bonus: The Exorcism Of Emily Rose 5943688 2.05 Braveheart (1995) (15)

**5.05 6.55 The Long Walk Home** (1990) (PG) Drama. 69598268

### SKY CINEMA 1

6.00am No Highway In The Sky (1951) (U) Adventure. 5986187 8.00 Kiss Me, Stupid (1964) [PG] Cornedy. 59938212 10.10 Twelve Angry Men (1957) (U) Drama. 12778106 12.10pm No Highway In The Sky (1951) (U) Adventure. 4861545 2.00 Our Man In Havana (1960)

2.00 Our Man in Havana (1960) (PG) Drama. 4932944
4.00 Twelve Angry Men (1957) (U) Drama, starring Henry Fonda. 60029767
5.50 Kiss Me, Stupid (1964) (PG) Comedy, with Dean Martin. 14729941 Comedy, with Dean Martin. 14729941 8.00 The Fortune Cookie (1966) (U) Comedy, and Walter Ma

10.05 Blow Out (1981) (18) Thriller, starring John Travolta and Allen. 2824748

11.55 The Company Of Wolves (1984) (18) Surreal fantasy, starring 11.55 The Company Of Wolves (1984) (18) Surreal fantasy, starring Angela Lansbury. 4840380 1.35am Permission To Kill (1975) (15) Thriller. 5385997 3.25 Ray Harryhausen Special

6.00am Survival 7.00 Survival 8.00 Quincy 9.00 Chicago Hope 9.55 LA Law 10.55 The Practice 11.50 Quincy 12.50pm Chicago Hope 1.50 LA Law 2.50 Peak Practice 3.50 Wpdlife 4.55 The Practice 5.50 Flim File 6.00 LA Law 7.00 Point 9.00 Flim: Far And Away (1992) (15) 11.35 Hammer House Of Horror 12.40am Big Game TV

51384881 **3.50 6.00 The Fortune Cookie** (1966) (U) Comedy. 76505220

Sky Box Office Digital movies can be ordered using the handset from the on-screen listings guide.

### RADIO

Radio 1 (FM: 97.6-99.8 MHz)
7.00 Chris Moyles. 10.00 Jo
Whiley. 12.45 Newsbeat. 1.00
Colin And Edith. 4.00 Scott
Mills. 6.00 The Essential
Selection. 9.00 Westwood.
11.00 Reggae Dancehall Nite.
1.00 Fabio And Grooverider.
3.00 1 Ntra Presents.
Radio 2 (FM: 88-90.2 MHz)
6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake
Up To Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce.
12.00 Jeremy Vine. 2.00 Steve
Wright In The Afternoon. 5.05
Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Rosie All
The Way. 7.30 Friday Night Is
Music Night. 9.15 Chronicles:
Volume One. 9.30 Listen To
The Band. 10.00 The Green
Room. 12.00 Bob Harris.
3.00 Janey Lee Grace.
Radio 5 Live (fMW: 909, 693
kHz) 5.00 Morning Reports.
6.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Phil
Williams. 12.00 The Midday
News. 1.00 Simon Mayo. 4.00
Drive. 7.00 Sport On Five. 1.00
Drive. 1.00 Leona Graham. 1.00 Niel
Francis. 4.00 Martin Collins. 1242 kHz) 6.00 Russ Williams. 10.00 Leona Graham. 1.00 Neil Francis. 4.00 Martin Collins. 6.00 Party Classics. 10.00 John Osborne. 1.00 The Edge. 3.00-6.00 Robin Burke.

## SPORT SKY SPORTS 1 A

6.00am Live European Tour Golf 692019
9.00 Big Fight Countdown 33664 9.30 UEFA
Champions League 79800 10.00 UEFA Champions
League 91564 10.30 UEFA Champions League
39748 11.00 UEFA Champions League 78090
11.30 UEFA Champions League 80019 12.00noon
UEFA Champions League 80019 12.00noon
UEFA Champions League 53816 1.00 UEFA Champions
League 51871 3.00 UEFA Champions League 10187 1.30 UEFA Champions League 52187 2.00 UEFA Champions League 2583 2.30 UEFA Champions League 1729 3.00 UEFA Champions League 1090 3.30 UEFA Champions League 6274

4.00 UEFA Champions League 5309 4.30 UEFA Champions League 4293 5.00 Big Fight Countdown 3835 5.30 FIFA Futbol Mundial 5545

5.30 FiĀ Futbol Mundial 5545
6.00 Soccer AM's All Sports Show 534651
6.55 U Can Do It 372767
7.00 Premier League Preview 3699
7.30 Live Victory Shield Football 596057
10.00 Live Friday Fight Night 8106
12.00midnight Victory Shield Football 14607
1.30 World Sport 47930 2.00 Friday Fight Night 23355 4.00 Soccer AM's All Sports Show 361355
4.55 U Can Do It 90171220 5.00 Premier League Preview 28268 5.30-6.00 World Sport 75599

### SKY SPORTS 2

World 9067187 10.00 Football League Review 5060835 11.00 Test Cricket 3816835 2.00pm The Rugby Club 8259903 3.30 European Golf 6276651 5.30 ICC Cricket World 2407800 6.00 Kiteboarding 2500941 6.30 Tight Lines 9067944 7.30 Live Rugby Union 3689632 10.00 Soccer AM's All Sports Show 1980632 10.00 Soccer AM's All Sports Show 1980632 11.00 Premier League Preview 7412748 11.30 ICC Cricket World 4432380 12.00midnight Legends Of Cricket 9974423 12.30-6.00 Live Test Cricket 1491369

### SKY SPORTS 3

6.00am Aerobics Oz Style 70406748 6.30 Powder 10195212 7.00 Good Morning Sports Fans 10139212 7.0U GOOM MORTING 590TS FAIRS 4536670 8.00 Football League Review 45444699 9.00 Racing News 98739038 9.30 The Rugby Club 61078019 11.00 Racing News 23188800 11.30 Aerobics Oz Style 23269729 12.00noon European Tour Golf 1003800 2.00 NFL 85950458

Tour Gelf 10903800 2.00 NFL 85950458
5.00 WWE Special 46817922
6.00 Poker 18002748
9.00 WWE: Late Night - Smackdown 37660564
11.00 WWE: Late Night - Bottom Line
Highlights of Raw. 28612564
12.00midnight WWE Special 45327978 1.00
Endzone 72811591 2.00 Tight Lines 88626355
3.00 Victory Shield Football 45789152 4.30 Moto
Plus 60891404 5.00 Kiteboarding 45396626
5.30-6.00 Live European Tour Golf 70390133

# The House Of Tiny Tearaways 9.00 The House Of Tiny Tearaways 9.00 Would You Buy A House With A Stranger? 10.00 EastEnders 10.30 Man Stroke Woman 11.00 The Comic Side Of 7 Days 11.30 Two Pints Of Lager And A Packet Of Crisps 12.30 The House Of Tiny Tearaways 1.00 Man Stroke Woman 1.30 The Comic Side Of 7 Days 2.00 Would You Buy A House With A Stranger? 2.55 Spendaholics **BBC FOUR**

**BBC THREE** 

7.00pm Tales From The Palaces 7.30 Thoroughly Modern Antiques 8.00 The World 8.00 Weather 8.30 The Cinema Show 9.00 8.30 The Cinema Show 9.00 Legends 10.00 The Highland Sessions 10.30 Ql: Quite Interesting 11.00 The Late Edition 11.30 The Avengers 12.20am Film: Le Feu Follet (1963) (15) 2.05 The Cinema Show 2.35 Legends 3.35 The Highland Se

### MORE4

12.05pm Richard & Judy 1.05 Countdown 1.50 Hill Street Blue n 1-50 Hill Street Blues 2.55 ER 3.55 Film: The African Queen (1951) (PG) **5.55** More4 News **6.00** Time Team **7.00** Jamie's Great Escape 7.30 The View From River Cottage 8.00 More4 News 8.30 The Daily Show With Jon Stewart 9.00 The West Wing **10.00** Film: A Room With A View (1986) (PG) **12.05am** Curb Your Enthusiasm 12.45 ER 1.45 Time Team 2.45 Hill Street Blues

### televisionX (SKY 969)

10.00pm Freeview 10.10 Dogging Diaries 10.30 Brettish Empire 2 11.00 Freeview 11.10 Dr G-Spot 4 11.30 Filthy British Lesbo S\*\*\*\* 4 11.50 C\*\* On My Teeny Tiny T\*\*\* 4 12.00midnight Freeview 12.10 Pretty Pregnant P\*\*\*\*\* 2 12.20 Screw Loose 12.40 | Love Lucy Law 1.00 Freeview 1.10 Strap-O-Gram Girls 1.30 Ibiza Uncut 2 1.50 Sex Make Over 2.10 North Pole 24 4.10 Together Foreve







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■ by SAM PARKER

# IT'S the movie that spawned the great

"are they or aren't they" debate. But one thing's for sure, Brad and Angelina are certainly a knock 'em dead couple in Mr. & Mrs. Smith.

Smith.

This slick action comedy brings Pitt and Jolie to the big screen together for the first time, starring as assassins who just happen to be married. John (Pitt) and Jane (Jolie) first meet in Columbia and begin a sizzling affair, marrying just six weeks later.

### Secret

Several years down the line, the duo are an ordinary suburban couple with an ordinary, lifeless suburban marriage.

urban marriage.

The spark has gone out of their relationship and they sign up to marriage counselling.

However, each of them has kept a big secret from the other - they are both legendary assassins working for competing organisations.

John's agency is low-rent and run with pal Eddie (Vince Vaughn) while Jane's is fashionably chic

(Vince vaugini) white said run by women.

On a typical day they set off separately to do their jobs, he to kill several men in a bar, she to pose as a dominatrix while breaking a inatrix while breaking a



inatrix while breaking a guy's neck.
But the couple find themselves unknowingly assigned to the same case by their agencies.
They identify each other, and compliant to the rules of their profes-sion, their next assign-ment becomes to kill each other. each other

To celebrate the home release of Mr & Mrs Smith from today, we've teamed up with teamed up with Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment to



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Mr. Mrs. Smith

TOP TIP
Mr & Mrs SMITH (15)
(Fox DVD/VHS)
BORED suburban housewife Jane
Smith, played by sexpot Angelina
Jolie, is asked: "How often do you
have sex?" She replies: "I don't
understand the question."
So it's clear that her marriage to
hunky but equally jaded Brad Pitt
is rocky. The magic has gone out of
heir lives and marriage guidance
isn't going to help bring it back.
Luckily for them, their jobs have
plenty of excitement. They're both
professional assassins – and their
marriage perks up when they're
hired to bump each other off.
Director Doug Liman stages the
exciting clash of killers with pace
and power, staging stand-ouc

and power, staging stand-out action sequences and spectacu-

action sequences and spectacular car chases.

Pitt and Jolie are in tip-top form, with sexual chemistry that sears the screen (if they could bottle it and sell it they'd could nottle it and sell it they do never need to work again). And Vince Vaughan has his merry moments as a murderous mother's boy.

It's a satisfying and sizzling action-and-comedy thriller.

VERDICT: 8/10

# BEST OF THE REST DARK WATER (15) (Buena Vista DVD)

SINGLE mum Jennifer Connolly and her young daughter, Arial Gade, move into a grim, grimy apartment,

where things start to go bump in the night. This slick shocker is a moody Hollywood remake of a Japanese horror movie.
Connolly looks lovely and suffers nobly, Gade is eerie, especially when talking to her "imaghary" friend, while British actor Pete Postlethwaite's odd foreign accent as a janitor supplies useful laughs.

VERDICT: 5/10

# **FAMILY CHOICE**

FAMILY CHOICE
TOY STORY 10TH ANNIVERSARY
EDITION (U) TOY STORY 2
SPECIAL EDITION (U)
(Buena Vista DVD)
TOM HANKS is heard but not seen in the first of these flicks as the voice of toy cowboy Woody, who



CHILLS: Jennifer Connolly stars in Dark Water

isn't well pleased by the arrival of cool spaceman Buzz Lightyear. But when Buzz falls from the window, Woody rushes to rescue his rival. Pixar's animated action fantasy is

Pixar's animated action fantasy is a real treat, featuring great gags and a parade of talking toys kids would mug Santa for.
The fun continues in Toy Story 2, which finds the talented toys roaring to the rescue when Woody is kidnapped by a collector.

VERDICT: 8/10

# BEST BUY THE JAMES BOND COLLECTION,

THE JAMES BOND COLLECTION,
20-disc box set (15)
(MGM DVD, £129.99)
"THE name's Bond, James Bond."
And when you become proud possessor of this classic collection, you'll be able to refresh your memory over the various stars who've said that.
Sean Connery began it all back in 1962, when he ogled Ursula Andress on the beach and saved the world from evil Dr No. He memorably reprising the rugged role in six more ing the rugged role in six more classic 007 adventures.

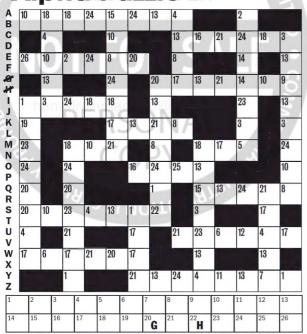
classic 007 adventures.
Hunky model George
Lazenby tried his hand in On
Her Majesty's Secret Service,
before passing James Bond to
Roger Moore and Timothy
Dalton.
And Pierce Brosnan became
the best Bond of all in
Goldeneye and two further 007
beauties. This set has the lot.

VERDICT: 9/10



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uzzle™ tests your logic and word power. Each grid number represents a letter. Every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter or letters - below the main grid – to start. Solution tomorrow.

DIFFICULTY: 7/10 TARGET: 22 minutes

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: Across: Occult. Molest, Beeswax, Taint, Show, Quest, Foggy, Bozo, Overt, Trickle (clue), Carton, Paddle. **Down:** Combust, Notch, Echelon, Berry, Clown, Jogtrot, Expurgate, Contest, Final, Tepid, Cockade, State, However.

### **EXTRA LETTER CLUES: 0905 072 3264**

(Hear up to six extra letters, deduct two minutes for each clue letter heard)

- Alternatively, text DSALPHA to 83426 and we will text the six extra letter clues direct to your mobile
- Texts cost £1 plus normal network operator rate

### FULL SOLUTION: 0905 072 3265

Calls cost 75p per minute from BT landlines

### The ULTRA Alphapuzzle™

WELCOME to the ULTRA Alphapuzzle" - Friday's special 'extra tough' version of Britain's favourite wordpower challenge. Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. All 26 letters are used. TARGET TIME: 30 minutes. Solution next Friday.



For up to six Extra Clue Letters, call: 0905 072 1811 (Deduct three minutes from Target Time for each extra letter heard.)

Stuck getting started? Don't give up. Call for Today's Tips:

0905 072 1979

Alternatively, text: DXALPHAX to 83426 and we will text the extra letter clues direct to your mobile \*Texts cost £1 plus normal network operator rate.

Full solution: 0905 072 1810 Across only: **0905 072 1812** 

Down only: 0905 072 1813 Calls cost 75p a minute from a BT landline (Ave Call length 90 secs).

Last Friday's solution

Across: Sympathy, Afloat, Fanatic, Mazurka, Sour, Assay, Smug, Outflow, Throngs, Midriff, Squiffy, Wise, Frump, Myth, Axolotl, Violent, Finite, Wrongful. **Down:** Sifts, Ohm, Wharf, Manhunt, Disjoin, Acts. Flair, Bolt, Hacksaw. Firmly, Impact, Samovar, Fuzz, Fraud, Coin, Oarsman, Flyleaf, Twang, Say,

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### **SUDOKU**

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3				4	D)	Ť	7	9	9	4	5	7	3	1	6	8	ļ

Extra clues: 0905 072 0302 Today's solution: 0905 072 0301 Calls cost 75p/m m a RT landling.

### /ESTERDAY SOLUTION

### THE WRITE STUFF

The missing item is: ELEGY

Weird comes from d meaning fate

**MORE PUZZLES IN** TOMORROW'S

### Call 0905 072 3267 for today's solution. Calls cost 75p per minute from a BT landline. Wo-Way easer

- CRYPTIC CLUES
  ACROSS
  3 Big drop that cuts
- 3 Big drop that cuts profits? (5,4)
  7 A right in lease gives you warning of danger (5)
  8 Shabby race in Scottish river (5)
  9 It's marked, on the surface, by military display (8)
  10 Drunk is mean (5)
  13 Either way, such talk is meant to spur you on (3)
  15 Turn or brick in front of gallery (6)

- gallery (6)
  16 Sum for a horse (6)
  17 Rubbish is sent back to river (3)
  19 A home in south east
- to suit (5)
  23 Bury one, or get inside (8)
  24 It's intended to put me in front of worker (5)
  25 A period of
- enchantment? (5)

- 26 Cleaner has to put fellow off (9)
- DOWN
  1 Terribly sad waters towards the Orient (9)
  2 Model tactfully includes it
- 2 Model tactulity includes it in letter (5)
  3 Don't continue going round circle in bowed position (5)
  4 Stick notice here (6)
  5 I'll press pad with metal (4,4)
  6 Door fastening in stall at church (5)

- 6 Door lastening in stall at church (5)
  11 Gift lady deprived of contents soon (5,4)
  12 Fluid rhythmical performance on stage? (3,5)
  13 For every copper, half of that's taken away (3)
  14 Irishman has one in
- 14 Irishman has one in training (3)

- 18 Fancy ring the navy consumed (6)
  20 Part when there's no fighting, we are told (5)
  21 It will raise a stye, somehow (5)
  22 If returned and given direction, it's moved in line (5)
  QUICK CLUES ACROSS
  3 Sudden drop (5,4)
  7 Watchful (5)
  8 Worn out, shabby (5)
  9 Stained skin with colour (8)
  10 Drunk (5)
  13 Liveliness (3)
  15 To spin (6)
  16 Quantity, extent (6)

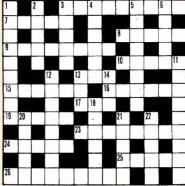
- 16 Quantity, extent (6) 17 Decay (3)
- YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION ACROSS: 1 Coffee pot, 7 Endow, 9 Tail Spin, 11 Amass, 12 Postman, 14 Glee, 15 Out, 17 Two, 18 Play, 20 Literal, 23 Cheer, 24 Ancestor, 26 Theft, 27 Endearing, DOWN: 2 Outdo, 3 Flint, 4 Pup, 5 Tenable, 6 Swiss roll, 8 Diameter, 10 Seat, 12 Prosecute, 13 Set Piece, 16 Narrate, 19 Time, 21 Enter, 22 Apron, 25 Cad.

- 19 Garden tool (5) 23 Toward a centre (8)
- 24 Intended (5) 25 A short period of time (5)
- 26 Cleansing agent (9)
  DOWN
  1 Closer to the Orient (9)
- 2 River mouth (5) 3 Bend down (5)
- 4 To stick (6) 5 Old smoothing device for clothes (4,4)
- 6 Gate fastener (5)
- 11 Main character in a play (5,4)
  12 Musical performance using the feet (3,5)
  13 For each (3)
- 14 Tap with the hand (3) 18 Decorative (6)

office (5)

20 Portion (5) 21 It makes dough rise (5) 22 Recorded in a public

Two sets of clues, but the answers are the same ANSWERS TOMORROW



les Vols 2, 3 and 4 are all currently

# TEXT DSTAR TO



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All MPs should have their wages and expenses cut to a third of what they are now. All they are interested in is lining their own pockets with every penny they can screw out of the taxpayer. BOB

EASY 4 MPS TO SAY WORK TILL
YOU R 67, THEY JUST KEEP
SEATS WARM WITH THEIR OVERBAID PACKETIES PREWEB

the taxpayer. BOB

EASY 4 MPS TO SAY WORK TILL
YOU R 67, THEY JUST KEEP
YOU R 67, THEY JUST KEEP
AND WARM WITH THEIR OVERPAID BACKSIDES. BREWER
Good 4 new lab backbenchrs. they
were elected 2 represent t public
not 2 push mein fuhrer Blairs ambition
or line their own pockets. This suposd
2B a democacy! The voice of truth
I BELIEVE BLAIR CARES
ABOUT SICK PEOPLE AND WILL
GIVE THEM EVERY OPPORTUNITY
TO COMMIT SUICIDE BEFORE FORCING THEM OFF BENEFIT dave, hull
Paras & commando R not elite,
U cant enter at the top, only
troops lyk SAS, SBS &
pathfinder squadrn! Afl
forces R equal heroes 2 put
up with T cr\*p they av 2
frm all sides. It seems
only cops count with
govt Ex Squaddie!
The Robert, VC is for
military but the
Queen can award her
the George Cross which
is civilian equivalent.
Muzza, Leigh, Lames
why cant we have several lotteries run by the
Government – Sat for NHS, Fri for
Education and so on, then the public
can decide where 2 give money, anon
24 hour boozin gr8! i work nites n
miss weekends, now i can strut my
heels down the street after work & be in
bed by 12... noon! kel, liverpool
HANG ALL B\*\*TARDS WHO
HURT DEFENCELESS ANIMALS.
CATWOMAN
Numpty blatter wants to ban nat
anthems? Send him a copy of god

CATWOMAN

Numpty blatter wants to ban nat anthems? Send him a copy of god save the queen – by the sex pistols cos hes pretty vacant! Daz Chorley

im a sparky & a lot of my mates & me r out of work cos polish sparks hav tuk our jobs 4 1/2 pay glad ive got my kid is prezzys. Rob

my son-in-law is muslim. he celebrates xmas with us, buys prezzies and loves great time we have. So get off

muslims backs and blame our govmni and council. they say wot goes. carol

To Fife Atheist, christmas is 4 an
faith that celebrates the birth of
jesus christ. THE GREEN tmas is 4 any the birth of

jesus christ. THE GREEN

My kids' school hav banned
Nativity play and Xmas cards but
had a celebration 4 Eid!! Double standards or wor? Lisa, Gateshead

People who r pro-asylum seekers r
obviously not on council or NHS
waiting lists. HUMBUG, London

i love the fact our country is made
up of every race and creed and
proud they want to live with us, but
only if they can live like us. matt van
diemen

MOAN ON

only if they can live like us. matt van diemen

How can anyl drive safely in burka? can only cthru a slit smaller than a letterbox. MARK, RUGBY

Wide cars too big for parking bays? Big car, small genitalia! Glad I got a REAL Mini! MINI DRIVER

HONE

If there's on the standard of the standard resear AC/DC and recommend a good optician. Ian Was a moan line. Booss and instruction of the standard resear AC/DC Tshirt. He would not know the standard resear AC/DC Tshirt. He would not know the standard resear AC/DC Tshirt. He would not know the ribute vid on smackdown, it's Here without You by 3 Doors Down. RIP Eddie, RKO

SONG 4 EDDIE ON RAW WAS HURT, BY JOHNNY CASH. FROM HIS FINAL ALBUM. VIVA LA RASAI DEXY

Muller, the old blokes from the muppet show were stadtler n wal-

CASH. FROM HIS FINAL ALBUM.
VIVA LA RASAÍ DEXY

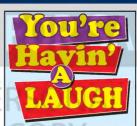
Julie, the old blokes from the
muppet show were stadtler n waldorf. Kay, Barnsley

I WEAR MY BIRDS CROTCHLESS
TIGHTS TO WORK, KEEP WARM
AND CAN STILL PEE STANDIN UP!
DAVID HILL, MOTHERWELL
womens underwear is much
warmer than mens! DEREK
RUTHERFORD, FIFE
BRING BACK NAVY BLUE
KNICKERS 2 STOP TEEN PREGNANCIES! REG
My mate reckons you'll never

NANCIES! REG

My mate reckons you'll never
print this text, so do me a favour
and win me a fiver! daily star rules!





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A MAN starts working at the zoo and is told to clean out the fish.

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Realising his employer won't be best pleased he disposes of the fish by feeding it to the lions.
He then moves on to clean out the chimp house, but they start peltting him with coconuts. So he swipes at two chimps with a spade, killing them both. What can he do? Feed them to the lions. Next he has to collect honey, but the bees all swarm around him so he grabs his spade and smashes them to a pulp, using the lions to dispose of them once again.
Later that day a new lion arrives at the zoo. He asks another: "What's the food like here?"
"Brilliant. Today we had fish, chimps and mushy bees."

DEREK RUSSELL, Perth Joke by text...
I SLEPP like a log last night. I

Joke by text...
I SLEPT like a log last night. I woke up in a fireplace. HARRY

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listen and laugh as your mate is wo on 0905 235 8158 Calls cost £1 per n

# // ( 2

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### £10 LETTER

# OUR Gordon is going to end up putting a tax on this breathing business. There's too much of it going on, air doesn't grow on trees.

There's too much of it going on, air doesn't grow on trees. And then there's being born, that should be worth a bob or two. And if you die and Mr Brown finds out, that's another charge. It is getting ridiculous.

If is a kind gesture to have a Save The Children Fund, but it would be nice to have a Save The Pensioners fund too, as they took us through two World Wars.

STANLEY BURTON, Northumberland.

THE immigration board can't be entirely slated for keeping Big Brother's Makosi here.

That woman has to be the most skilled, unapologetic liar in history, apart from the Government!

J. BARKER, Leeds.

MAKOSI being allowed to stay in this country should be on the condition that she goes back to work as a nurse.

After all, it is because she secured work that she was allowed here in the first place.

L. COLLINS, Maidenhead.

here in the first place.
L. COLLINS, Maidenhead.

# APPEAL

ant YOU to star



THE PHONE

er jodie, far

# • Elaine's £165k

Elaine said she'll never go camping ever again. correct me if i'm wrong but all she did was go for walk in the woods and got £65k – plus now wants £100k! DR Red

Wants £100k! DR Red
Hen party in my local last
night. Legless at 11 on
karaoke, sounded tons better

karaoke, sounded tons better than Conways. anon Louis Walsh has spat his dummy out because Simon speaks the truth. Good riddance. X factor will be bet-ter without him! LORD KEV

to carl - yeah mate, band idol would be the dogs botox. my band would blow all contenders away, just get proper judges, not faded record execs. matt

execs. matt
to all u men who txt in moaning about x factor—go down the pub instead u jessies! julie
WHY DO PEOPLE ON TV inc CHEFS TALK WITH FOOD IN THEIR MOUTHS? ITS DISGUSTING. anyone agree? tom

bring back brookside, that was a real soap – guns, gangsters, jennifer ellison. Better than fat over-the-hill mitchells. davebeef

How cum it took all walford police force 2 arrest one dog? big al DONT MOAN ABOUT TV ADS – TAPE PROGS THEN FF THROUGH ADS! SIMPLE! ANGUS, WOKING if u dont believe countrys goin down the pan, watch the jeremy kyle show. tone

FOR legal reasons, we are unable to respond to text messages. If you have a query that needs a reply, write to: Daily Star, 10 Lower Thames St, London EC3R 6EN.

### STAR AGGRO

# Edited by PATRICK LENNON

e-mail: patrick.lennon@dailvstar.co.uk



THE WWE juggernaut rolled across our shores with all the appearance of a familiar well-oiled machine this week.

Fittingly, Eddie Guerrero was at the forefront of the hearts and minds of those attending and performing in the television tapings at Sheffield's Hallam FM Arena.

An emotionally-charged atmosphere saw WWE attempt to respectfully move on from Eddie and build for the Survivor Series PPV on Sunday night.

WWE is on the ropes, make no mistake about it. The atmosphere amongst the staff and wrestlers was one of subdued shock.

At a time of immense personal grief for many of Guerrero's closest compadres, they found themselves halfway round the world trying to come to terms with the most traumatic loss the wrestling business has suffered in recent memory.

And the Smoothers due.

memory.

And the Smackdown champion is in serious trouble. Batista has torn his lateral muscle so severely he will require corrective surgery. Perversely, it seems that the Animal is so badly injured that being choke-slammed through car windscreens and announce tables on Sunday in treally soine to make too

amounce tables on Sunday isn't really going to make to much of a difference until he goes under the knife.

So to RAW. The flagship show was all about the PPV, as one might expect, and the opening brawl in the CAR PARK (ahem, not "parking lot") raised the stakes nicely. At least Todd Grisham looked suitably chastened by the Yorkshire chill, and you will have noticed neither Randy Orton or Chris Masters removed his shirt.

### Flaky

Bischoff must have had a solid 15 minutes of mic time during this show, which is a little over the top. The Smackdown invasion

The Smackdown invasion is a given, it's the week of Survivor Series, but a lot of folks would have preferred the story to be told in the ring, not at the end of a cable. The only way was up after Snitsky and Tomko, the World's Flaklest tag team, made a pig's ear of their squash on Heat. Tomko's elbow was a full yard away from his opponent on their version of the Snapshot, in this case, the "crapshot", for the finish.

Carlitto got a deserved rousing strength of the strength of the snapshot.

rousing reception. It was good to see him wrestle instead of just clutching his Golden Delicious. The best match was

Angle and Benjamin, although Kurt did seem a little pre-occupied.

The nearest thing to a title change was the Murdoch-Flair match. FT expects the red-neck to have that strap off the Nature Boy after

Nature Boy after SS. Vincent is high on him. A Harley Race-trained boy outdoing Flair!! Hats off

to Trip, by the way, for a sick chairshot on the unfortunate Val Venis.

Val Venis.

The heir apparent got a huge ovation. It's funny how people seem to miss him when he's not on top and complain when he is.

complain when he is.

Cena impressed me by
turning an edgy and difficult
crowd at the drop of a hat
with impressive mic work. A
lot of people there wanted to
jeer him.

Anyone who tells you his

Anyone who tells you his ability to entertain a hostile crowd like that isn't special is talking rubbish.

Needed help from the Boogeyman though.

### Historic

Smackdown was a super show. Now FT doesn't want to spoil tonight's episode for those of you who weren't at the tapings, but we can go so far as to say there was a four-star match contender on Velocity between MNM, who really are looking the part these days, and Kendrick and London.

London.

Benoit-Booker is worth tuning in for too, and SD also has an historic announce-

Burchill and Regal were well received, but pop of the night was between Mysterio and the magnificent Mr Kennedy. It raised eyebrows

Kennedy It raised eyebrows here to note that cries of "Kennedy" were as frequent and loud as the "Woooos". And then they were gone. Great scenes as Mysterio and Benoit, Eddie's friends, paid tribute with the crowd. Seeing an empty ring while his music was playing just brought it all home.

HAVE A GO: Get a grip of your views and e-mail patrick.lennon@dailystar.co.uk

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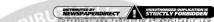
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**Chuck Norris** 'Men are like steel. When they lose their temper, they lose their worth' -

# Movers

groovers

LEGAL software consultant Tikit wrote to shareholders yesterday telling them to ignore a letter that appeared to be about a takeover bid for the company.

takeover bid for the company.
The unnamed sender is thought to have lined up an offer for another potential target but posted details to Tikit investors by mistake. Tikit chairman Mike McGoun said: "The directors are not aware of any proposed takeover of the company.

company. "Shareholders are advised to disregard the letter which the board believes has been sent in error."

IT should be a bumper Christmas for families with relatives who work in

the Square Mile.
The average City
worker's take-home pay worker's take-home pay has risen to £50,945 a year, up from £43,873 last year, according to recruitment specialists Morgan McKinley.

BY coincidence, both Tony Blair and the Confederation Of

both lony islant and the Confederation of British Industry's director general Digby Jones chose Monday to talk up the future of nuclear power.

When asked about it by journalists, Jones looked like a schoolboy caught in front of a broken window with a catapult in his back pocket. "What a surprise," he said.

JOHN Lewis Partnership's communications director Paul Burden is to step down after six years as spin doctor-in-chief at the employeeowned retaile

The former BBC ewsreader, 60, will retire in January

THE DEALER

### **HOT GOSSIP**

SHARES in Advanced Fluid Connections, the former Oysterlec pipe-fitting business, rebounded 1.5p or 28% to 6.75p yesterday. Advanced's plumbing products business has been severely hit by production costs due to the sharp rise in copper prices.

# **House firm's success storey**

HOUSEBUILDER Persimmon is set to join the FTSE-100 elite after agreeing the 2643 million takeover of rival Westbury.

Already the largest builder by stock market value, the deal will see the York-based group overtake Barratt as the No.1 by number of homes built.

At £3.2 billion, Persimmon

ranks 84th largest UK quoted company and is due for promo-tion to the Footsie at the next reshuffle.

reshuffle.

The offer is 560p per share plus a 6.1p dividend, a 22% premium on the price before talks began two weeks ago.

Perslimmon backed up the move by splashing out £169 mil-

lion on a 26.1% stake in its target. Persimmon built 12,360 homes last year and Westbury 4,400, putting the enlarged group on course for 20,000 homes within five years.

Persimmon chief executive John White said "a few hundred" office jobs would be axed to cut out duplication.

### **FAIR SHARES**

LEADING share prices fell from four-year highs yesterday after a sell-off in blue-chip property firms. Land Securities and Hammerson were among the big fallers, along with catering giant Compass Group, which is the subject of an investigation by the Serious Fraud Office.

# **AMEC PLANS** A 3-WAY SPLIT

■ by BILL MARTIN

CONSTRUCTION and oil field engineer Amec unveiled a plan to break itself into

three pieces yesterday.
Chief executive Sir Peter Mason said the company does not have enough money to expand in three different markets simultaneously.

different markets simultaneously. So he is putting the company's Francebased European construction and engineering business Spie – expected to be worth around £450millon – up for sale. And he will then look at splitting the remaining firm into two, with the UK construction arm demerging from the oil and gas engineering business, which is planning to win new contracts on the back of booming energy prices.

### Loss

He also said he is pulling out of loss making UK road building contracts, US construction management and some oil and gas work – at a cost of £70m.

The City welcomed the move, sending the shares up 15p to 372p, which values Amec at £1.24 billion.

"Breaking Amec Into its constituent parts has seemed an obvious scenario for quite some time," said Emma Ormond, of Orlel Securitles.

"Nobody in the UK has ever got their head around the Spie business, so it was always likely to be undervalued within the overall portfolio."

Amec's ambitions to expand as a servicer of the world's oil and gas rigs has been hampered by its high debt – £300m at the last results.

It has also suffered in Iraq, where four

at the last results.

It has also suffered in Iraq, where four workers died in attacks last year and work to repair electricity and water supplies has been delayed.



BRITAIN'S biggest commercial group, GCAP Media, dividend and

Vaughan, is pictured above with singer Mariah Carey, GCAP chief Ralph Bernard is trying to repeat his Classic FM success by halving the time devoted to ads. But this will wipe £7 million off revenue.

# Hi-tech sales boost at Comet

ELECTRICAL goods giant **Comet** is seeing signs of recovery as MP3 players and flat-screen TVs fly off its shelves in

players and flat-screen
TVs fly off its shelves in
time for Christmas.
But owner Kesa
Electricals had bad
news on its French operations yesterday.
Price deflation and
stiff competition has hit
the performance of its
Darty and BUT chains.
Kesa reported a 3.1%
fall in like-for-like sales
at Comet's 249 store in
the three months to
October 31.
This was an improvement on first-half figures, thanks to strong
sales of new technology
products.

### Shoppers

Sales of white goods such as fridges and ovens fell in line with the wider market as shoppers hold back on expensive home items. Chief executive Jean-Noel Labroue said Comet grew its market share slightly in the three months.

three months.

"Given the economic climate and market "Given the economic climate and market uncertainties, it is too early to predict customer spending patterns during the key December/January trading period," he said.
"But we can predict that any sales growth will be in flat screen TVs and new technologies rather than traditional goods."

### **FTSE100 SHARE INDEX Down 20.70 point (-0.37%) at 5511.00**

Company	Price	Change	High	Low :	23
3i Grp	. 869	+2	874	6751, 3	1470
A.B Food		-25	863	726	1082
Alliance & Leic	. 900	-41	947.	814	2233
Alliance Unichm	. 778	+4	875	7154	6022
AMVESCAP	. 3884.	-34	4321	299, :	1124
Anglo		+25	1884	1130	4949
Antofagasta	. 1661	+1	1701	1052 :	3438
Astrazeneca	. 2648	-12	2767	1861 :	1585
Aviva	. 705%	-3	709	573 ;	3388
BAA		-35	6435	5715	7389
BAE Sys	. 349xd	45	350,	224, :	1010
Barclays		-7	615	5194	1004
BG Grp	. 553	-6	567	344:	7274
BHP Bill	. 8845	+95	916	5645	2423
BOC Grp		-6	1173	917	1008
Boots Group		+1	692	5834	1009
BP	. 657xd	-12	683,	500,	1011
Bpb	. 7694		771	438	1094
Br.Airways	. 306	-41,	320	2194	6258
Br.Amer.Tob		+6	1329	857	1003
Br.Land		-34	1044	780	1128
BSkyB		-24	595	489-	3382
BT Group		+3,	235	1945	1012
Cable & Wire		+5	1644	107	1015
Cadbury-Sch		+65	594	459-	1016
Cairn Energy		-14	2018	1042	3643
Capita Group	. 3984	+64	399,	345	5263
Camival	. 3229xd	-1	3319	2637	2568

Change High Low -39 1606 1235 217/ 175 617 721 1384 641 711/ 1464 708/ 1101 821 780/ 409/ 732/ 825 529 1337 612 150/ 101 915 539 201 Compass Daily Mai Diageo . DSG Intl . Ent.Inns Exel . . . -21 Next Nthn Rock 02 OldMutual PartyGaming Pearson 1380xd 8325 1955xd 1555xd 1055x 650 5305 1800 511 160 394 517 2380 3825c 1691 1145xd

ned before making investment decisions ormation provided but it may include e oct the Star Helpline on 0871 434 1519.

Source: www.DigitalLook.com

Christmas.

Reporting a 21% rise in half-year profits, the group said sales had increased in the past six weeks from the 2.6% growth recorded in the first half.

Chief executive Chief executive Ian McLeod said bikes and in-car gadgets were flying

DEMAND for de-icers and

car batteries during the cold snap is helping bike

and car parts retailer **Halfords** to drive ahead. Sales of sat nav equipment, iPod car stereo connectors and

stereo connectors and bikes will also boost the company in the run-up to Christmas.

out of Halfords' 402

HALFORDS GETS

A WARM GLOW

stores. The retailer, which sells the lettanet, which selfs a third of all bikes sold in the UK, launched a new top-of-the-range bicycle collection under the Carrera brand.

Carrera brand.

It has also started selling the device that allows people to listen to iPods in their cars. Pretax profits rose £6.9m to £40.4m in the first half.

McLeod said the firm's resilience in a consumer slump reflected that many of its products were necessities. He said are

of its products were necessities. He said: "If your car bulb blows you have to replace it."

Q I'VE heard that production of the Vauxhall Monaro is ending soon. Does that mean it's now a good time to get a discount?

A Vauxhall's muscles to the deal of the chop is indeed facing the chop it means the few discounts offered won't be around for ever. Some main dealers are taking about \$4,000 off the \$129,985 tist price.

price.
It's spacious, well-equipped and offers a more relaxed style of high performance motoring than European and Japanese rivals.

Do you know of any large 4x4s that I can buy for less than £12,000?

than £12,000?

A You can pick up an early 1998 diesel Merc M-Class diesel from around £11,500, because this was actually a car that arrived at the wrong



time. It went on sale just over a year before the BMW X5 and was designed to do the job of a semi-serious off-roader, while providing the creature comforts a Merc customer would expect. However, later premium 4x4s tended to favour on-road performance, leaving front, while the earliest M-Class models were criticised for not carrying the CR as models were criticised for not carrying the craftsmanship expected of a car wearing the three-pointed star.

Even so, the ML is still an imposing sight, feels like a premium 4x4 and will depreciate slowly.

FORD have made a stack of what they call "big car features" available throughout their Fiesta and Fusion range, even though most of them have already been standard on cars like the Peugeot 206, Renault Clio and baby Citroëns for a long time. Climate control, rainsensitive wipers, light-sensitive headlights, Bluetooth hands-free, MP3 connection and fold-flat heated door mirrors are all on the shopping list. A new small-car feature, however, is voice-activated controls for the phone, sound-system and even climate control. Welcome to the real world.



# More for th

YOU probably won't have seen many of these around. And that's because the Vauxhall Meriva is a remarkably dull looking and equally dull to drive machine.

machine.

Now Vauxhall have decided to do something about this beacon of failure by completely refreshing it on the inside and outside, as well as giving it three new engines.

engines.
And as you can see from the front, this far more aggressive bumper and grille have smartened it up considerably.
The rear gets smoked lights and a new chrome strip while a "refreshed" interior

DITION/SSA

features an all-new fabric line-up (so it's not trimmed in "dull" any more) along with shiny chrome fittings to lighten things up.

A new 74 bhp, 1.3-litre diesel unit offers 57 mpg, while out goes the current 1.6, to be replaced by Vauxhall's new twinport engine, taking the car to 112mph while still returning 42 mpg.

The new range appears early in 2006, starting at around £11,000, and will include a daft 176 bhp, 1.6-litre, VXR turbo at around £16,500. With 0.60 in eight seconds and 138mph it sounds ... Merivelous. Yep, that's an attempt at a pun. Sorry.

# overeig

I'VE been a bad, bad boy, but I don't care because I

enjoyed myself.
And anyway I didn't have to pay for it, otherwise it would have cost

almost a grand.
It's certain the police wouldn't have been happy if they'd caught me.
Blimey I would probably have got done

for this.
What are you thinking? Look forget this is a motoring column – some of

the time.

And anyway, if you'd imagined something sleazy and tasteless, and I bet you were, then take a look at the car I've

were, then take a look at the call the been driving.

That's right, it's a Jaguar, dear chap.
It tells a story of class, refinement, taste, comfort, excellence.

There's nothing tawdry about this car, or the men you'd find behind the

And before all you equal rights butch

And before all you equal rights buten lezzers start whining, when did you ever see a woman driving a proper Jag? That's right. Never.

Proper Jag? I mean a dirty big Sovereign. Extremely wealthy XJ drivers like me sneer at S-Type owners and cringe at the thought of a paltry X-Type.

A poor creature driving one of those waved at me as if he was in the Jag club. I completely ignored the odious little creep. It happened last week

PRICE (on the road): £49,995. (range: £43,995 £74,995).

ENGINE: 2,722cc, lightweight cast iron block, alloy head, 24-valve V6, quadcam (204bhp, 321lb torque).

TOP SPEED: 141mph; 0-60mph: 7.8 secs.

MPG: Urban: 26.0; extra urban: 43.7; combined: 35.0.

CO2: 249g/km.

INS GROUP:

when I found myself cruising back down south after a visit to the Jewel of the North. That's right: Macclesfield.
As I purred back down the M6 in my Jaguar, I noticed that my right knee was hurting. I needed to stretch my leg, but I didn't want to stop, so this was my cunning plan.
First, I used a switch on the steering column to electrically lower the entire pedal box so I could stretch out my legs a bit more. It's standard on all XJs.
Then I put the (standard) electric leather seat a lot further back, so I could just about reach the brake and accelerator.

accelerator.

### Cruise

That felt better too, but I then used the same switch to electrically bring the steering wheel *towards* me so my arms weren't stretched. Again, it's standard.

standard.

Thirdly, and this is where it starts to get naughty, I set the cruise control (standard) to a speed I cannot reveal.

So there I am, doing "7mph, on a jampacked Sunday night motorway, and I can barely reach the pedals, though at least my knee's stopped aching.

Sounds scary, but that's where Jag's little 950 extra called Adaptive Cruise Control kicks in After varily see the

Control kicks in. After you've set your speed, you then set the gap you'd like to keep between you and the car in front.
Radar beams constantly monitor the

distance and you just cruise along, with the car braking and accelerating for you. It's almost like being on a train. Only comfier and less smelly.

like being on a train. Only comfier and less smelly. I managed to stay in this lazy legs-out position for 150-odd miles. It's fantastic, and so is the new XJ.

In fact, the new, lighter, aluminium-framed XJ, launched only a month ago is, pardon the pun "light years" ahead of the old one.

It is, beyond doubt, absolutely briliant. Here's a car that is so bang up to date it eclipses the previous model, which, for a worrying length of time now, had me seriously concerned about Jag's future. Not any more. In the luxury car class BMW were boss with the 7 Series. But then backcame Audi, who were running away with things thanks to the AB. Just recently Mercedes launched the superb new S-Class, bristling with high-tech and combining luxury with a great drive.

And all along, quietly in the back-

nighteen and combining itxury with a great drive.

And all along, quietly in the background my favourite was the Lexus. I had two weeks in the Lexus LS 430 followed by another fortnight in the last XJ and there was no comparison. You'd have been a fool to buy the Jag.

Now, I am nothing like as sure. Worse still, as far as Lexus are concerned, the XJ I've been driving was a diesel, and they don't have one, although they are going semi-electric (see above). The Jag had the latest 2.7-litre motor that first appeared in the S-Type and forced me to write, at the time: "Last week Jaguar told me the most horrible lie. They said I was in a diesel."

Of course, they were right. This is one sensational engine. And in the new lightweight XJ it is magic.

And why not? If you put 204 horses and a sensational 321 lbs of torque into a car that weighs only 10% more than a Focus, why not just call it the bullet?

From the outside, the inside, or just in terms of performance, you would never know that this huge car is a diesel that averages 35 mpg.

### Smooth

It rockets away in that eyeball popping, yet smooth and silent way that Jags are famous for. Virtually every gadget on the planet, including touchscreen controls, light-sensitive headlights, rain-sensitive wipers, electric everything all come as standard. Even the window pillars are lined in an accountant-bashing velvety soft-touch trim, while the instruments are back to feeling Jaguar rather than Ford.

Ford.
It's a total revelation, I adore it, and if it isn't my Car of the Year, what will be?
I haven't decided yet.







ow-orrs. ird of us think they're le one in five motorists say ly the product of a mid-life t they're for "chavs". In

IF you're looking for a small car, but want something a bit special, here are two motors I can recommend: They are the Kia Picanto and Hyundai Getz, both now available in "Special Edition" form. At £7,595 the new four-door Picanto SE + adds leather trim, gear-knob and steering wheel, alloy wheels, fog lamps and a flash chrome grille for £1,000 more than previous top-of-the-range, the LX. Meanwhile, £6,995 gets you a two-door, 1.1-litre Getz SE, which won't cost you a penny extra over the standard car. You can, however, choose from a "Hip Hop" red paint job and interior or an "Ebony" black finish with a blue inside job.

BRUTE-IFUL: New LS will match muscle car looks with a mix of V8 and electric power to keep it cleaner than rivals

# New limo Lex like a winner

If Just look at this for scary, It's the Lexus LF ept car, but take it from me it's the next-genera-Lexus LS, and isn't it just brilliant? The LF just dis for Laugh, and they're having one. Years now, the LS has been my favourite top but it's a fact that while it's still wonderful to the thing of the t

AHO 108

driver's car. Well, Lexus aim to change all that before the end of next year, because the LS won't just be the scariest car that's ever loomed up behind you, it's also set to be the friendliest to the air we breathe, because it's a hybrid – part petrol, part electric. No wonder the bonnet's so long. Lexus say that the new car won't just have a V8 engine under there, but it will be backed up by electric "motors". That's right, more than one.

Although they won't say yet just how many there will be, they do promise "exceptional" acceleration, matched to four-wheel-drive. It sounds, and looks, absolutely fantastic.



# this £600 leccy bike

NAUGHTY NIGGLES: Usual moan about the Jaguar boot. It may stretch back for miles, but there's just no depth to it. Come on lads, sort it.

TASTY TOUCHES: All-round quality of the fittings, the instruments and gentleman's club blend of burr walnut and leather. Aaah. FAST OR LAST: Super quick, super silent, ocean cruiser that's surprs-ingly fierce when it has to be.

WONGA WONDER: For this kind of executive car, the new Jag range is terrific value.

WOULD AN ESSEX GIRL LIKE IT? Only for the occasional journey. It's not that there's anything wrong with the car, it's just that Tracey would get sick of having to get dressed up every time she went out.

AM I good to you or what? You probably remember that a couple of weeks ago I promised to run a contest to give you lucky Motor Mouth readers the

lucky Motor Mouth readers the chance to win one of these sensational £599 electric bikes. Well here it is: Set the streets on fire with the amazing Sakura Mustang Electric Chopper bike.

As makers Sakura proudly boast: "The phrases 'making a statement' and 'electric bike' have probably never appeared in the same sentence. Well they do now!"

But there's more to the easy-

do now!"
But there's more to the easyrider Mustang than just a work

of art. You can cruise the streets in

iou can cruise the streets in style with no effort – just let the electric motor take the strain. However, don't get the idea that this is a kid's bike, because at a full 7ft 2in long, riders have to be at least 5ft 5in. The

Mustang features this flash Mustang features this flash metallic red flame finish, chrome handlebars, a wide motorcycle-style rear tyre, high Back Seat, twist & go throttle and hidden battery compart-

It has a 200-watt high torque motor that gives it a near



DREAM MACHINE: The Mustang

16mph top speed and even front disc brakes. Want one? You'd kill for it. But before you do, entering this contest could save you a life sentence.

Simply phone 0905 028 0202 and leave your name and address and the answer to this simple question: How tall must you be to ride the Mustang?

Your call will cost just 25p from a BT landline, which is cheaper than a stamp.

Alternatively, text DSMOTOR followed by your name and details to 61616. Texts cost 25p plus your usual network operator rates.

Winners will be chosen by midnight next Thursday, at random from all entries. Normal Daily Star rules apply.

Good luck, folks.

Further details: Visit www.sbsb.co.uk or phone 0208 896 1133 for the address of your nearest dealer.

your nearest dealer.

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REAR MIRROR MONSTER: Perfect combination of ageless beauty mar-ried to sheer power. Scary and swish all in one go.

BACKSIDE BEAUTY: Sits better than the previous XJ, which looked too hunched and high up. It's fabu-

PLAYTIME PLEASER: The entire new XJ range is astonishingly well equipped. All cars come with full leather trim, electric seats with mem-ory settings, twin-zone climate con-trol, trip computer, cruise. It just goes on and on.





Blast away dirt and grime from a variety of surfaces with this 1600 watts high temperature, pressurised flowing steam cleaner. It's ideal for stripping fat and grease from hobs and cookers, making tiles and grout sparkle in seconds, shifting muck and grime from cars and caravans, freshening up curtains and upholstery and many more cleaning

Light in weight (3lbs) with a cool to touch body, it can be used one-handed and the

chores

water reaches operational temperature very quickly. The Penguin Steam Cleaner comes with many accessories, including a hooked nozzle for cleaning the toilet rim, a triangular brush with cloth, 3 small brushes, 2 window squeegees, a micro fibre cloth and water jug. It's excellent value at only £29.95 including p&p.

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THINKING of buying a motorbike? Then before you rush out and get the first one that seems good value, remember this:

The colour of the machine you choose, and the leathers you want to go with it, can reveal an awful lot about the invisible face

awtu lot about the invisible face behind the visor. Essex insurance firm Devitt's, who specialise in bike insurance, asked top colour psychologist Angela Wright to explain what sort

# by GEORGE FOWLER Motoring Editor

of message Britain's bikers are sending out without actually realis-

sending out without actually realising it.

And girls, if you want to expect
a wild ride and be made to feel
like a princess, then get yourself a
guy with a red bike and gold
leathers.

However, if you prefer a more
mature lowing partner, yet one who

mature, loving partner, yet one who still has a bit of a glint in his eye, then it's the guy with yellow

leathers and a blue bike who's defi-

demand for the school run

nitely the one you're looking for. If it's simply loads of fun and a close friendship you want, look out for a pink biker on an orange machine. Devitt's surveyed its customers'

Devitt's surveyed its customers' leather and blike colours and passed the results to Angela Wright, who says that the colour a man chooses for a blike indicates his attitude to bliking itself, while the colour of his leathers indicates how he sees himself when he's riding it.

The most popular colours for bikes are red, blue and black, while for leathers it's black, followed by red. Angela says: "Many people think that colour is just a matter of how things look – and it's often dismissed as being purely cosnetic.

### Barrier

"But the fact is that the colour people choose is an instinctive, unconscious response to what is a vital element in our survival.
"The most popular colour for leathers is black, which many people think is neutral.
"But that's not true at all. Black absorbs all colour wavelengths and creates a barrier between the wearer and the world. This often indicates a need for protection.
"It's effectively an absence of light—equivalent to darkness—and, since many people are afraid of the dark, it can be perceived as quite threatening.
"And yes, it's very effective in this role, but in actual fact the wearer might feel anything but powerful and menacing."



s man.

ue: He has clear thought,
urity and responsibility.

lack: This man requires protion from the outside world.

old: He exudes luxury, top-ofrange expense, sophistication
glamour.

and glamour.

Green: A balanced and peaceful
man who will keep everything he
touches finely tuned.

Grey: He enjoys well-made,
functional items, but may have
slight low self-confidence.

Mauve/Purple: An upmarket

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# NOBBY'S KNOWS: BAG

TOP up on Nobby's facts and trivia as we reveal our final roll call of perfect pub ammo.

Over the last month our brilliant Nobby's Knows column has brought you a feast of filling facts in every flavour and as tasty as the chunky, ridged crisps themselves.

And our SOS for the world's best bites of knowledge has caught the imagination of Star readers.

We've been swamped with by thrilling trivia on everything from sex and sport to driving and beer.

Nobby's Crisps, which come with a great life lesson or fact on the back of every bag, have already given away three cracking cars to trivia champions in our prize draw.

Now we're unveiling our last fact morsels as we give you one more chance to win a fantastic 17k Honda Civic Type R.

And getting entered in the competition gentleystar.co.uk with NEWS FOR NOBBY'S as the subject header. You can also enter your trivia by following Nobby's link on www.dailysnack.com

Or you can solve our fun Number Cruncher – all this week's questions are repeated below.

But first here's one final fact fling for all you trivia lovers with more of our Pick n' Mix favourites...

We've all heard a tall tale or two. But this phrase for it actually came from the town of Stony Stratford in Buckinghamshire where travellers used to change coaches and tell each other fanciful stories at two pubs, The Cock and The Bull. Sounds fishy to us.

l like a Goatee In India a woman can legally wed

Hot chicks
In the Middle Ages men used chicken soup as an aphrodisiac to pep up their sex lives.

### Bird Flew

The fortunes of Pacific nation Nauru have been built on birds droppings which they sell to Australia as fertilizer. Gives the phrase 'crap job' a whole new meaning.

Hang It All In 1845 British lawmakers cracked down on people attempting to commit suicide - by threatening to hang them if they got caught.

### World's Smallest Town

It may have the world's biggest population but China is reckoned to have the globe's tiniest town. Yumen has just three residents - an elderly

man and his two daughters – but it still has a local council, chief executive and an official seal. The dad must be a busy man.

### When In Rome

Every continent in the world contains a city called Rome.

Marriage On The Rocks Back in the madcap 1970s, a Los Angeles woman named Jannene Swift officially married a 50lb rock.

Dicey Work
In eighteenth-century English
gambling dens there was an
employee whose only job was to
swallow the dice if there was a
police raid.

**Something To Mule Over**More people are killed annually by donkeys than in airplane crashes.

The phrase, 'The Whole Nine Yards' isn't a sporting term as most people think. It comes from the amount of material needed to make a fine suit.

### **Humble Pie**

Eating humble pie was a reality in 17th century Britain when there really was a kind of snack called an Umble Pie favoured by poorer folk – it was made of offal. Mmm.

Next time you go bowling tell your mates it was originally a German pastime called Heidenwerfen – which meant 'strike down the heathens'. It'll knock em dead.

In Saudi Arabia a woman is entitled to get a divorce if her husband doesn't make her enough coffee. And you thought your partner nagged you too much.

### Glass Act

There are some barmy world records out there but this one is the best bar none. It's the record for the most glasses balanced on the chin and was achieved in 2001 by Ashrita Furman in New York who managed to balance an amazing 75 pint glasses on the end of his face for 10.6 seconds.







# Reader fact file

### Jackie, Brentford, Middlesex

### **KNOW YOUR ONIONS**

An apple, onion, and potato all have the same taste. The differences in flavour are caused by their smell. To prove this - pinch your nose and take a bite from each. They will all taste sweet. So save money and fill your fruit bowl with spuds and onions!

### FAST FACT

A 'jiffy' is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

### Lee, Whaley Bridge, Derbys

### ANT ATTACK

There are one million ants for every person on the planet. And they could be planning something - I mean how would we know?

# Chris, Mayfield, East Sussex BOTTOMS UP

The average driver emits enough wind inside their car during their lifetime to fill over 1000 balloons.

### Maureen, Banstead, Surrey

### GAME ON

The most landed on square in the British version of Monopoly is Trafalgar Square.

### Sarah, High Wycombe, Bucks

### SNAIL RACE

The first Grand Prix race was won with an average speed of just 46 mph.



